

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the Application.

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) A ~~computer implemented~~ method implemented by an apparatus for processing of describing user preferences pertaining to navigation of and access to multimedia content and related user preferences, the method comprising:

(a) storing providing user preference information in a user profile about a multimedia consumer, the user preference information describing including browsing preference information that describes the multimedia consumer's preferences for browsing audio-visual content, wherein the browsing preference information specifies

(i) a plurality of browsing preferences elements that include a first browsing element representing a visual key-frame summary,

(ii) a first genre to which the plurality of browsing preferences elements apply, and

(iii) a respective preference value for each browsing preference element in the plurality of browsing preferences elements, wherein the respective preference value indicates relative importance of the corresponding browsing preference element for browsing multimedia audio-visual content of the first genre;

(b) receiving an audio-visual content stream having content of the first genre;

(c) receiving user input that requests displaying content from the audio-visual content stream based on the user profile;

(d) in response to the user input and based on the preference value for the first browsing element in the browsing preference information of the user profile, displaying content from the audio-visual content stream by using the visual key-frame summary; and

(e) updating the preference value for the first browsing element based on the multimedia consumer's preference for the visual key-frame summary to browse audio-visual content of the first genre.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the plurality of browsing ~~preferences is~~ elements are described in a hierarchical data structure.

15. (Currently amended) A ~~computer implemented~~ method implemented by an apparatus for processing of describing user preferences pertaining to navigation of and access to multimedia content and related user preferences, the method comprising:

(a) storing providing browsing preferences of a multimedia consumer, the browsing preferences describing the multimedia consumer's preferences for browsing audio-visual content and specifying

(i) a plurality of summary preferences elements that include a first summary element representing a visual key-frame summary, apply to

(ii) a first genre of multimedia audio-visual content to which the plurality of summary elements apply, and

(iii) wherein the browsing preferences assign a respective preference value assigned to each summary preference element in the plurality of summary preferences elements, the respective preference value indicating relative importance of the corresponding summary preference element for browsing multimedia audio-visual content of the first genre;

(b) receiving an audio-visual content stream having content of the first genre;

(c) receiving user input that requests displaying content from the audio-visual content stream based on the stored browsing preferences of the multimedia consumer;

(d) in response to the user input and based on the preference value for the first summary element in the browsing preferences, displaying content from the audio-visual content stream by using the visual key-frame summary; and

(e) updating the preference value for the first summary element based on the multimedia consumer's preference for the visual key-frame summary to browse audio-visual content of the first genre.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the plurality of

summary preferences elements are [[is]] described in a hierarchical data structure.

17. (Currently amended) A system for processing user preferences pertaining to navigation of and access to multimedia content and related user preferences, the system comprising:

a data storage device for storing browsing preferences of a multimedia consumer in a data structure, the browsing preferences describing the multimedia consumer's preferences for browsing audio-visual content and specifying

(i) a plurality of summary preferences elements that include a first summary element representing a visual key-frame summary, apply to browsing

(ii) a first genre of multimedia audio-visual content to which the plurality of summary elements apply, and

(iii) wherein the data structure assigns a respective preference value assigned to each summary preference element of the plurality of summary preferences elements, the respective preference value indicating relative importance of the corresponding summary preference element for browsing multimedia audio-visual content of the first genre; and

a data processing apparatus configured to process the data structure:

receive an audio-visual content stream having content of the first genre;

receive user input that requests displaying content from the audio-visual content stream based on the browsing preferences stored in the data storage device;

in response to the user input and based on the preference value for the first summary element in the browsing preferences, display content from the audio-visual content stream by using the visual key-frame summary; and

update the preference value for the first summary element based on the multimedia consumer's preference for the visual key-frame summary to browse audio-visual content of the first genre.

18. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the data structure

~~specifying including the plurality of summary browsing~~ preferences is structured hierarchically.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the respective preference value for each browsing ~~preference element~~ in the plurality of browsing ~~preferences elements~~ defines a respective preference weight.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the plurality of browsing ~~preferences elements~~ include[[s]] a ~~first second~~ browsing ~~preference element~~ that specifies browsing based on one or more characters depicted in the ~~multimedia~~ audio-visual content of the first genre.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising: storing the user profile in a movable storage medium.

23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein specifying the respective preference value for each browsing ~~preference element~~ in the plurality of browsing ~~preferences elements~~ includes specifying the respective preference value based on a usage pattern of each browsing ~~preference element~~ in the plurality of browsing ~~preferences elements~~.

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the respective preference value for each summary ~~preference element~~ in the plurality of summary ~~preferences elements~~ defines a respective preference weight.

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the plurality of summary preferences elements include[[s]] a first second summary preference element that specifies browsing based on one or more characters depicted in a preferred summary type for the multimedia audio-visual content of the first genre.

26-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[27]] 25, wherein the key themes browsing based on one or more characters includes character-oriented browsing, character/place relation-oriented browsing, or time sequential browsing.

29. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the respective preference value for each summary preference element in the plurality of summary preferences elements defines a respective preference weight.

30. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the plurality of summary preferences elements includes a first second summary preference element that specifies browsing based on one or more characters depicted in a preferred summary type for the multimedia audio-visual content of the first genre.

31-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently amended) The system of claim [[32]] 30, wherein the key themes browsing based on one or more characters includes character-oriented browsing, character/place relation-oriented browsing, or time sequential browsing.

34. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the data storage device includes a movable storage medium for storing the data structure ~~specifying the plurality of summary including the browsing preferences.~~

35. (New) The method of claim 13, further comprising:
receiving a content description identifying a plurality of segments within the audio-visual content stream; and
using the content description to enable content based browsing of the audio-visual content stream.

36. (New) The method of claim 15, further comprising:
receiving a content description identifying a plurality of segments within the audio-visual content stream; and
using the content description to enable content based browsing of the audio-visual content stream.

37. (New) The system of claim 17, wherein the data processing apparatus is further configured to:
receive a content description identifying a plurality of segments within the audio-visual content stream; and
use the content description to enable content based browsing of the audio-visual content stream.